

BMGS CAREERS NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, 20 September 2022

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Open Days & Info Sessions

endota Wellness College | Alexandria Campus Tour

Thursday 22 September 2022, 3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

endota Wellness College, Alexandria

Join us at our brand new Alexandria Campus for a campus tour and immersive Info Session. Hear about our eWC community and how you can embark on a new journey with full-time or part-time study.

Find out more: <https://endotawellnesscollege.edu.au/alexandria-info-sessions/>

Whitehouse Institute of Design | Open House, Sydney

Saturday 24 September 2022, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Whitehouse Institute of Design, Surry Hills

This year's 35th Anniversary of Whitehouse Open House is not to be missed! Come and explore our campuses, meet our staff and students and gain in-depth information on our courses, teaching and student life. You will be able to ask questions about the course, see the studios and facilities and get a taste of the creative atmosphere at Whitehouse.

Find out more: <https://whitehouse-design.edu.au/whitehouse-open-house-2022/>

ATAR Notes | Free HSC Revision & Head Start Lectures Online

Monday 26 September 2022, 9:30 am - Friday 30 September 2022, 6:30 pm

Online

Our legendary revision/head start lectures, delivered by elite past students, can give you a huge advantage going into Term 4.

Sessions in this series cover a huge range of subjects.

Why register?

- Tune in to heaps of lectures delivered by recent elite year 12 graduates
- Ask questions live and get immediate answers
- Come back and rewatch any time, download slides for your own study and more

Find out more: <https://atarnoteslectures.com/nsw>

ADF | Trade Careers Virtual Information Session

Monday 26 September 2022, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Online

A trade role in the Australian Defence Force will see you working with some of the world's most advanced military technology and equipment.

Learn about trade careers in the ADF at the virtual info session.

Find out more: <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/events/events-detail/vvespsz>

UNSW | #CareersUnlocked: How to find passion, purpose and profit

Thursday 29 September 2022, 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm

Online

As Australians re-emerge from two years of disruptions caused by lockdowns and a global pandemic, it is clear workers are looking for more in their careers – whether it is flexibility, purpose or passion, there is no doubt that the nine to five has changed.

Recent research reveals a third of Australians would take a pay-cut in exchange for better work/life balance, more enjoyable work or a greater sense of fulfilment.

Join #CareersUnlocked: How to find passion, purpose and profit as our expert panel, Shehara Hapugalle, Senior Client Lead for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Strategy at The Dream Collective and Professor Barney Tan, Head of School of Information Systems and Technology Management (SISTM) at UNSW Business School, unpack how workers evolving expectations is redefining business norms through flexible work, inclusivity and social entrepreneurship.

Redefine your career with our discussion and receive top tips on how you can strike a balance between passion, purpose and profit in business.

Find out more: <https://www.events.unsw.edu.au/event/careersunlocked-how-find-passion-purpose-and-profit>

Camp America | Online Information Session

Tuesday 11 October 2022, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Online

Summer Camps are looking for you! Teach your skills all summer, make a difference and meet great mates on your next adventure. Stop dreaming and start your next adventure from home.

Join us for an online information session from the comfort of your home!

We've got heaps of tips and tricks to make your dreams reality and make application stand out. Get a full rundown of what your Camp America Experience could look like. Bring mum, dad and your best friend, all are welcome.

Summer 2023 is waiting for you!

Find out more: <https://www.campamerica.com.au/events/camp-america-online-3>

University of Sydney | Studying Business at Sydney: Bachelor of Commerce

Wednesday 12 October 2022, 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Online

Discover how our Commerce degree prepares you for the future of work and a wide range of career opportunities. You will learn about the many ways in which you can combine your interests, such as studying a major in 'Innovation & Entrepreneurship', or choose from over 100 study areas from our shared pools of majors/minors. Find out more about internships, industry-focused experiences and global mobility opportunities on offer to our Bachelor of Commerce students.

Find out more: https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ba3RerVkSxSYrjdVBnOEtg

Landscape Solutions – Apprentice Information Day

Saturday 29 October 2022, 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Landscape Solutions, Seven Hills

This October we will once again be hosting our Apprenticeship Information Session at our Seven Hills Head Office.

This is a rare opportunity to talk to our team, check out the plant, machinery and equipment we use, and get a taste of what you will learn with a career in horticulture. You can also chat to our Sports Turf Management professionals, and our management staff who were once in your shoes deciding if a career in landscaping was right for them.

Find out more: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/landscape-solutions-apprentice-information-day-tickets-395715755477>

UAC Digital | Let's Chat – Applying for the Educational Access Scheme

Wednesday 2 November 2022, 6:00 pm

Online

The Educational Access Scheme (EAS) is for students who have experienced long-term disadvantage(s) and may help with entrance into university. We'll give you an overview of EAS and discuss:

- categories of disadvantage
- how to apply
- application documentation
- EAS key dates
- application tips.

And we'll give answers to the most commonly asked questions!

Find out more: <https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/registration-lets-chat-applying-for-the-educational-access-scheme>

Bedford College | Open Day

Thursday 3 November 2022, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Bedford College, Norwest

Starting your career? Looking for a change? Want to enhance your existing skills? Open Day is your chance to find out about the opportunities that await you at Bedford College!

Due to unforeseen circumstances surrounding the Queen's passing, the Bedford College Open Day has been moved from September 22 to **November 3, 2022**.

Here's what you can expect:

- Free BBQ
- Course information
- Chat with lecturers
- Campus tour
- Fee information
- Enrolment assistance

Find out more: <https://www.bedford.edu.au/open-day-2022/>

UAC Digital | Let's Chat – The Schools Recommendation Scheme, course preferences and offers

Wednesday 9 November 2022, 6:00 pm

Online

Have you applied for the Schools Recommendation Scheme?

The Schools Recommendation Scheme (SRS) is one way institutions make early offers of undergraduate admission to Year 12 students. They do this by using criteria other than (or in addition to) the ATAR.

Learn about key dates, listing course preferences and what to do once you receive an offer.

Find out more: <https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/registration-lets-chat-the-schools-recommendation-scheme-course-preferences-and-offers>

Sydney Design School | Info Session

Wednesday 9 November 2022, 6:00 pm

Sydney Design School & Online

Find out everything you need to know about our flexible courses and career support. Our Director, Amanda Grace will introduce you to our unique philosophy, passionate Educators and industry focused approach to learning.

You can also join an on campus session live online via Zoom if you would prefer to stay at home.

Find out more: <https://sydneydesignschool.com.au/information-sessions/>

Workshops and Courses

NIDA | Costume Design 101

Saturday 24 September 2022, 10:00 am - Sunday 25 September 2022, 5:00 pm

NIDA, Kensington

An introduction to the principles of creating costumes for stage and screen. Develop original design ideas through practical exercises with a NIDA tutor to build your skills and visual understanding.

Find out more: <https://www.open.nida.edu.au/course/OHCO1112>

CIT | Cybersecurity Bootcamp

Monday 26 September 2022, 9:00 am - Friday 30 September 2022, 4:30 pm

Online

The Canberra Institute of Technology in partnership with Microsoft, AustCyber, Prodigy Learning, MEGT, and TAFE NSW is offering a 'Cyber Security for Starters' bootcamp. This course provides introductory knowledge and skills for cyber security in an organisation. You will learn how to recognize threats, risks and vulnerabilities that affect networks, machines, applications, data, users and infrastructure.

The bootcamp is a complete unit of the subsequent Certificate IV in Cybersecurity. Candidates will receive a statement of attainment on completion of the bootcamp.

Find out more: https://cit.edu.au/news/cit_cybersecurity_bootcamp

NIDA | Close-up: Screen Acting

Monday 26 September 2022, 10:00 am - Friday 30 September 2022, 5:00 pm

NIDA, Kensington

Experience all aspects of acting for film and television. Create detailed characters, learn voice and movement techniques and understand the intricacies of acting for camera in this in-depth exploration of screen performance. Showcase your screen skills to family and friends at the end of the course.

Find out more: <https://www.open.nida.edu.au/course/OHCUS1112>

Stop Motion Animation – School Holiday Workshop

Wednesday 28 September 2022, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery

Stop motion is a form of animation that uses a sequence of images played back as a video giving the impression of movement. Working in small groups, you will create paper cut outs, write a story and direct a stop motion clip from start to finish!

Find out more: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stop-motion-animation-school-holiday-workshop-tickets-404394162827>

Macquarie | Science Experience

Tuesday 4 October 2022, 9:00 am - Thursday 6 October 2022, 4:00 pm

Macquarie University

The Macquarie Science Experience (October 4-6) provides 3 days of STEM workshops, lectures, practicals and hands-on activities. It is suitable for students from years 10-12. To see what to expect, visit: <https://youtu.be/pvjuV6ZX3AM>. Some spaces are left – register ASAP.

Find out more: <https://www.scienceexperience.com.au/how-to-enrol>

Scholarships

Westpac Young Technologists Scholarship

Value: \$5,000 AUD per year

Open/Closing Dates: August 29, 2022 – January 6, 2023

Are you intrigued by technology and how it can change the world for the better? Westpac Young Technologists Scholarships are designed specifically for high school graduates who are passionate about technology and eager to explore its potential for good. We're looking for curious young minds, open to new ideas and untapped opportunities. If this sounds like you, let's make it happen.

[Find out more](#)

UOW School of Medicine Scholarship for Indigenous Students

Value: Various Up to \$10,000 AUD

Open/Closing Dates: July 21, 2022 – December 9, 2022

The School of Medicine Scholarship for Indigenous Students will act as a pivotal tool to attract Indigenous Students at the UOW School of Medicine in their pursuit of a career as a medical practitioner.

[Find out more](#)

University of Newcastle Andrew Zdenkowski & Sue Outram Environmental Sustainability Scholarship

Value: \$5,000 AUD

Open/Closing Dates: September 1, 2022 – February 26, 2023

Dr Andrew Zdenkowski and Dr Sue Outram would like to support students who will contribute to improving environmental sustainability in line with the environmental sustainability priorities of the College of Engineering, Science and Environment.

[Find out more](#)

UNSW David Nunan Rural Residential Scholarship

Value: \$8,000 AUD

Open/Closing Dates: September 3, 2022 – September 30, 2022

The David Nunan Rural Scholarship assists students from a rural area living at one of the Kensington Colleges at UNSW.

[Find out more](#)

Macquarie University Robert Menzies College Accommodation Costs Scholarship

Value: \$3,000 AUD

Open/Closing Dates: August 1, 2022 – January 3, 2023

The Macquarie University Robert Menzies College Accommodation Costs Scholarship provides you with the financial support to live on campus while you study an undergraduate course at Macquarie University.

[Find out more](#)

Competitions

High School Student Photography Awards 2023

Here at the CCP one of our favourite things is seeing our VET in High School students flourish in a creative environment and we want to help students from across Australia to do the same. That's why we've created the High School Student Photography Awards! We're inviting high school students from all over Australia to enter and be recognised for their creativity and originality.

This is an open theme competition, and creativity and originality is highly encouraged.

Photographs can be taken on any photographic medium, phone cameras, film cameras, instant cameras, whatever works – if it takes a photo – USE IT!

Entries are open until 31 December 2022.

Find out more: <https://www.ccp.sa.edu.au/high-school-student-photography-awards>

NSW Children's Week 2022 Art Competition

The Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People together with the NSW Children's Week Council is inviting entries for the NSW Children's Week 2022 Art Competition.

The competition is open to all children and young people up to the age of 18 living in NSW. It's not about being a good artist, it's about finding inspiration and sharing your voice through art. Group entries are encouraged and allowed.

Nine winners (three winners for each age group: Age 5 and under, 6-11, 12-18) will receive an award and prize.

Entries close Friday 7 October 2022.

Find out more: <https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/nsw-childrens-week-2022-art-competition>

Work Experience

Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) Work Experience Program

The Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) Work Experience Program provides participating students with an overview of the roles of FRNSW and its firefighters. It is delivered through both practical and theory

sessions in a disciplined and safe working environment. Through this program, school students gain insight into FRNSW and develop employment related skills to enhance their vocational education.

Dates available for Term 4, 2022:

- 24 – 27th Oct 2022
- 31 Oct – 3 Nov 2022
- 14 – 17 Nov 2022
- 21 – 24 Nov 2022
- 28 Nov – 1 Dec 2022
- 12 – 15 Dec 2022

[Learn more](#)

Careers & Jobs

How to ask people about their jobs

Is there a job out there you think you would absolutely love? It can be hard to know exactly what a job is like unless you have hands-on experience. Unfortunately, this isn't always possible.

But you can do the next best thing – ask someone!

Why should I ask someone about their job?

Getting advice on a career you're interested in is always a smart move. You can find out a lot you might not know, like pathways into the career, the ups and the downs, daily tasks, industry insights, and a whole lot more.

Then, you can use this valuable info to help steer you in the right direction. Think about what you learned and weigh up your options – is this still something you'd want to do, or has your perspective changed? It can also help you think about things you can do right now to get closer to your goal.

It's always helpful to get more than one perspective too (if possible). Talk to as many people as you can.

What should I ask?

Here are some questions that you might like to ask to get the most out of the experience:

- What does a normal day look like?
- What's your favourite (and least favourite) part of your job?
- How did you get this job?
- Is this what you wanted to do when you were younger?
- Do you have any advice for someone looking to get into the industry?

It's important to consider how well you know the person you're asking, and remember there are some things that could be inappropriate to ask (for example, asking how much money someone makes).

Some final tips

Take notes – you don't want to go to all this trouble only to forget everything a few days later.

Ask follow-up questions – if there is something you don't quite understand, it's better to ask for clarification than to be left unsure. This is also a great way to show you've been actively listening.

Keep in touch – send the person a letter or email thanking them for their time and effort. This could be your chance to make a valuable connection for the future.

Want to find out more about your dream job? You can also check out our [Job Spotlights](#).

Further Learning

Change of heart? Not a problem, just change your preferences

If you're in Year 12 and want to go to university next year, then you'll probably know that this is the time of year to start getting your applications organised. But did you also know that if you have a change of heart, it's not a problem – you can just change your preferences?

Unis have tried to design a system that's as flexible as possible, bearing in mind all the different courses on offer and the thousands of applications they receive each year. Both the universities and admission centres recognise that signing up for tertiary studies is a huge decision. There's a lot to take in, and so many options available, so it's inevitable that students are going to change their minds for all kinds of reasons.

It happens and it's not a big deal. There are lots of ways that you can tweak your university applications even after you've submitted them. With just a little bit of time and effort you can easily get back on track.

Before ATAR results are released

Were you stressing about submitting your uni application between school work and other commitments? If you were in a hurry perhaps you didn't give too much thought to the order of your preferences.

Maybe choices have been weighing on your mind, or you've had some time to do a bit more research and found a different course that would suit you better. Maybe you've done some further reading on one of the courses you'd put lower in your preferences, and have now decided that's the one you'd *really* like to study.

Perhaps you've had a change in your life that means that you'll need to rethink where you'll be able to go to uni.

Whatever the reason, the good news is that ***you can reorder your preferences any time.***

You'll need the login and password details for the relevant account that you created when you originally applied. So dig those out, then hop online to see what you need to do next.

If you're having any trouble you can give the relevant admissions centre a call. If you applied directly to a university and want to change your application, it's best to contact the university directly – ask to speak to the admissions team, they'll know how to help.

Windows for changing your preferences

So you never got around to changing your preferences because life was just too busy and it wasn't a priority before your exams, but you'd still like to change the courses you've selected or the ones you'd most like to receive an offer for. Or you've received your ATAR results and you've done much better (or perhaps not as well) as you'd hoped. Don't fret – you can still change your preferences.

Bear in mind that the whole results-to-offers process moves quickly, so if you're thinking you might want (or have) to change your preferences, then keep reading.

In each state, the ATAR results are released on different days and the main round of offers made through Tertiary Admissions Centres happen a couple of days after that. They always allow a period where you can change your preferences between receiving your ATAR and offers being made.

Say you do end up getting a lower ATAR than you expected. You could reorder your preferences and list a course with lower entry requirement first – this way you'll be more likely to receive an offer and you get to influence which course you'd like as your second option.

Or, if you did way better than expected, you can move a course with a higher selection rank to your top spot (just make sure you're not moving it because you can and that it's something that you do actually want to study).

Here's the dates you'll need to know if you don't want to miss that opportunity:

State	TAC	Results Release Date	Change of preferences cut-off for main round offer
NSW & ACT	UAC	15 December	By 11.59pm 16 December
Victoria	VTAC	12 December	By 4pm 14 December
Queensland	QTAC	16 December	By 12pm 19 December
WA	TISC	18 December	By 11.59pm 19 December
SA & NT	SATAC	TBC	4 January 2023
Tasmania*	UTAS	14 December	N/A: speak to UTAS to change your preferences up until course start date.

*UTAS issue main round of offers to Tasmanian students in Mid December and to interstate students in January, you'll need to call and check with them what their system for changing preferences is. For students who have applied via **direct entry** to institutions, look on their website or give the admissions centre a call for dates and instructions.

But wait... there's more

Didn't get an offer in the main rounds? Or maybe you did get an offer but it's not the one you wanted. Well, there's more good news – you still have time to change your preferences before the next rounds of offers, if you'd like to.

For example, if you got an offer but it's not your first preference and that's the one you really, really want, accept the offer you received and leave your preferences as they were. You might be offered a place for your first preference course in the next round of offers.

That can happen if somebody else doesn't accept an offer and a place becomes available for the next in line students (you).

You might have been offered your first preference but not be as excited about it as you ought to be, that's ok too. Again, you can accept your offer, reorder your preferences list for the next round of offers and see if you get another offer for the course you want.

These are the dates you'll need to know for the next round of offers:

State	TAC	Change of Preferences Closes for next round of offers round
NSW & ACT	UAC	By 11.59pm 5 January 2023
Victoria	VTAC	By 12pm 19 January 2023
Queensland	QTAC	By 11.59pm 4 January 2023
WA	TISC	By 11.59pm 15 January 2023
SA & NT	SATAC	4 January 2023 (SATAC only have 1 change of preference deadline)
Tasmania*	UTAS	Check with UTAS

Change your preferences even after you've accepted an offer

Say what? Yep it's true – even if you received an offer in the main round, you can **still change your preferences**.

(If you get an offer, it's probably always best to accept it. That way, if you don't receive an offer in later rounds, you still have that option to fall back on).

For example:

- you receive an offer in main rounds for your first preference but have changed your mind about the course you want
- accept your offer
- reorder your preferences before the cut-off date (see above table or contact the TAC) for the next round, list the course you'd like to receive an offer for in first place
- wait to see what offers you get in the next round
- accept your new offer
- withdraw your enrolment from the first institution

Important Note: Make sure that you withdraw your enrolment for any offers that you no longer want, **before the census date** (check with the uni if the information isn't in your offer email), otherwise you could end up paying two lots of fees.

Looking for more help?

If you need more information on choosing courses and unis, how to go about applying to university, as well as preferences and when you can change them, you can download our [Apply to Uni Guide](#). It's out now and covers all the important information for each state.

Check out this short video with some tips on choosing your preferences:

Don't give up

If things don't work out the way you had hoped with your results and offers, there are still lots of different ways that you'll be able to access the courses and careers that you'd like to pursue.

Speak with the TACs and universities, or have a look at some of the resources that you might find useful on our [website](#), including [alternative pathways](#).

Guaranteed Accommodation at University

If you're thinking of moving away to go to uni, one of the big things you'll need to sort out is accommodation.

Leaving home without the prospect of somewhere to stay can be daunting – which is why some universities have started to offer guaranteed accommodation.

This means that if you apply to study with a uni and are accepted, there will be a guaranteed room waiting for you when you start. Which means you can spend less time worrying about where you're going to live and more time getting prepared for study.

Which universities offer guaranteed accommodation?

Currently there are only a handful of universities that offer guaranteed accommodation. There are often different eligibility requirements between universities, so make sure you read the fine print carefully to ensure you're eligible.

Here are the unis that currently offer guaranteed accommodation:

- [Australian National University](#)
- [Charles Sturt University](#)
- [Federation University](#)
- [James Cook University](#)
- [University of Canberra](#)
- [University of Melbourne](#)
- [University of Newcastle](#)
- [University of Queensland](#)
- [University of Wollongong](#)
- [Victoria University](#)

Want to find out more?

Learn about different accommodation options for when you leave home in our newly-updated [Uni Accommodation Guide](#), free for Study Work Grow members.

Resources

Connecting what you have achieved to where you want to go

By Julie Dal Santo from My Career Capital

Achievements are often personal. Each of us will have different versions of what success looks like. In the classroom, achievement can often be talked about in terms of getting high marks. Whilst this is important, if we broaden our view to look at all the information that surrounds the achievement, it can give us insights for future career goals.

Let's take a look at some ways you can unpack your achievements and make sure they are working with and for your career goals.

Build a portfolio of your achievements

Making a portfolio that lists and captures all of your achievements will give you such a rich resource to draw on. However you design your portfolio, ensure that when you add an achievement you're including any certificates, a description of the achievement and any important information that may come with it. For example, feedback, what you learned, or what skills you used.

Over time, your portfolio will grow and grow. You can use this to help you foster confidence and a positive mindset when you find something difficult or challenging in a future career goal. For example, when you are on a steep learning journey in your first job, or do not achieve the score you were hoping for.

We all like to believe that our career ahead will be smooth sailing, but realistically, everyone has times when we need a little confidence boost to keep us going. Taking a moment to recognise that you've achieved a lot already, remind yourself of the skills you've developed and what you've accomplished so far will give you that edge to keep going and focus.

Your portfolio will be an asset when you need to create or update your resume, and showcase what you've done in an interview. It will also save lots of time, avoiding the strain of trying to remember and recall what you've done.

Getting to know yourself from your achievements

Self-reflecting on goals you've achieved and the process of setting goals, and the journey you went on to achieve them can help you learn about yourself, and build clarity on your pathway ahead.

This means setting some time for you to think, reflect, learn and write. By doing this, you can give yourself a better chance at achieving your future career goals. Here are some ways it will help you:

- Learn from what didn't go well to help make better decisions in the future. We can often learn more about ourselves and what we need to work on when things *don't* go to plan. For example, if you found a subject particularly difficult, and fell behind with a task that was taking you a little longer than you thought it would. As a result, you stopped contributing as much in class. Learning from this, in the future you can allocate an extra 30 minutes a week for notes, reading or preparation for future subjects or tasks that may be more difficult.
- What were you good at? Was there something that you did that you aced and came naturally? Take note where your strengths and challenges were.
- Who are the people you do your best work with? What is it about them and how do you work around them? What are the environments that you most enjoy and do your best work in?

Highlighting your achievements

What we do know is that often the opportunities or jobs we are hired for in the future are directly related to what we have done or achieved in the past. How we represent ourselves and what we've achieved can make a significant difference.

When we think of this, often our minds can jump to 'that sounds like bragging'. Learning to share what you've achieved in a confident humble way (whilst controlling that self-talk) is something that everyone needs to work on.

It takes practice to build confidence to share. A great place to start is with the people around you that want you to succeed, your allies or your people. When they ask how did you go, or what have you been working on, it's absolutely OK for you to share with pride.

Identifying interests and creating meaning in what you do

Exploring your achievements is fundamental to you understanding what you found interesting, and what the meaning was in that project that drove the strong connection for you to persist and accomplish it.

Exploring our purpose and figuring out what bring us happiness will continue throughout your career. It will continue to evolve as you grow and experience different things. Monitoring clues on what you find interesting, what you feel strongly about and what you want more of as you learn through experiences will help you make choices about subjects, courses, jobs or industries to shape your future goals.

When you're setting future goals, you need to really understand why you want this, what is important about it to you, and connect that meaning to any tasks. This will often be your fuel to keep going until you've achieved it.

Work backwards

This is your one shot to live an amazing adventure. Be ambitious in your dreams, and get excited. Consider what you want to be able to say about this life when you are older reflecting on the experiences you had. Successful people aren't necessarily the ones who are the smartest or best educated; they are the ones who are brave enough to own what they want. Think about what you want and dream big. What are some of the goals to you can set now to work towards your dream?

Achievement is important, however coupling achievement with a growth mindset will certainly set your future self up for greater success. The strategies covered in this article can support and prepare you for achieving your career goals. Start now, to pick one that stood out to you, and start working on it today.

This guest article was written by Julie Dal Santo from My Career Capital

Julie is an experienced coach, HR professional and facilitator. Julie's work is focussed on ensuring people have the tools, support and know-how they need to successfully grow and manage their own 'career capital' across their lifetime.

Are you interested in more about this, and wanting to develop students clarity, confidence and readiness for their career? [My Career Capital](#) offers integrated workshops, programs and an innovative platform where students can design, manage and grow a personalised digital portfolio of their career capital to enhance their career and employment.

[Get in touch](#) with us today if you're interested to find out more about how we can help.

Join the Australian Government Youth Steering Committee

AYAC are excited to launch the new Australian Government Youth Steering Committee! The committee is a new opportunity for young people to work with the Minister for Youth and ensure that young people have a voice to government.

The Youth Steering Committee will support the development of a new youth engagement model and create new opportunities for young people to work with the government and contribute to policy. The committee will work closely with the Minister for Youth, the Hon Dr Anne Aly MP, and provide advice to

the government on the experiences and policies that matter to young people. The Youth Steering Committee is supported by Australian Youth Affairs Coalition and the Australian Government Department of Education.

Members of the committee will attend training and have the opportunity to meet and network with young people, government officials, the Minister for Youth and Members of Parliament. The first meeting of the committee will be in Canberra between 20–24 November 2022. Travel, accommodation and meals will be paid by Australian Youth Affairs Coalition and the Australian Government Department of Education. Every member will also be paid an honorarium to recognise their contributions.

The Youth Steering Committee will include 15 young people between the age of 12 and 25. You don't need any previous experience to apply. We're looking for a diverse group of young people from right across the country.

Applications are open now and close on Wednesday 5 October.

Find out more and apply: <https://www.ayac.org.au/steering-committee>

What a Gap Year really costs

Would you like to take a Gap Year but you're afraid you won't be able to afford it?

Perhaps you're really keen but your parents are concerned about where you'll find the money and don't want you ending up in debt.

They're both valid and sensible concerns. But even if you'll be financing your own Gap Year and you've got no savings at all yet, if a Gap Year is what you really want and you have a plan in mind, you might be pleasantly surprised about how affordable some options are – we were in the office.

The nuts and bolts

When you're looking at costs, you'll need to research **all** the money that's going to be involved.

Even if you're already working and plan to live at home rent-free and keep working for the next 12 months, you'll need a financial plan. Because without one you could fritter away all your hard-earned salary and not may not be able to achieve your goals at the end of your Gap Year.

Travel, study, and most Gap Year Programs have costs associated with them.

You'll need to figure out how much it's going to cost you overall (include the smallest details because they all add up), then figure out how you're going to be able to afford your Gap Year.

If your parents or other family are helping you out – great. You still need to know what costs you're going to incur then plan a budget to make sure your money will last as long as it needs to.

Try to avoid getting into debt for a Gap Year. Paying back the costs with interest could set you back once your time out is over.

The three steps to Gap Year success

1. Plan

Work out what you want to do and where you want to go. You need these details so you can work out how much everything will cost.

2. Budget

Once you know how much you need, write a clear budget that lists every item. You'll need to know how you're going to pay for **everything** in the budget.

3. Save

You'll know how much you need, so set some goals and start saving. A contingency plan could be a good idea, just in case you don't manage to save enough.

What options are out there

There are tonnes of different programs to choose from and the costs vary with all of them.

We've reached out to a couple of providers to take a look at some of the options available for 2023 and the costs associated with them.

[Letz Live](#)

They'll plan, arrange and support you in an overseas Gap Years to places like New Zealand, the UK and Thailand – yes even during Covid. You'll get placed as an assistant at a boarding school or camp; living, working and travelling like a local. Combining paid work with exploring your local area, you'll get the chance to travel further afield on weekends and during holidays. You'll be paid for your work, and your accommodation and meals will be included.

[AIFS](#)

Choosing to Au Pair in America or New Zealand you'll get to experience living like a local, earn pocket money, receive a study allowance, and costs include your airfare, program fee, visa, police check. You'll be living with your hosts with free meals and accommodation in your own room in exchange for providing child care. You'll also receive paid holidays and travel time.

[WWOOF](#)

Becoming a WWOOFer could allow you to learn about organic farming, gain some independence and travel Australia really economically. In exchange for 6-8 hours work a day, 5 days a week, you'll receive free meals and accommodation with a host family, plus gain some skills and experience life in different parts of Australia in a safe and fun environment.

[ADF Gap Year Program](#)

The ADF offer the opportunity to spend 12 months working with the ADF in the Army, Navy or Air Force. You'll get paid a salary, have opportunities to travel around Australia and gain new skills and valuable work experience. Even better, other than your initial medical or travel costs you won't have to cough up a cent.

Actual Program Costs

Org	Location	Type of Gap Year	Cost	Earnings	Duration	Other
Letz Live	New Zealand	Working	\$2,815 + flights	Up to \$250 per week + meals & accommodation	6 or 11 months	–
Letz Live	UK	Working	\$2,815 + flights	\$14-16K + accommodation	Up to 24 months	Visa, available savings, & health surcharge
AIFS	USA	Au Pair	\$995	Pocket money, study allowance, meals, accommodation	12 months	Medical, interview costs, drivers license, luggage fees on flights

AIFS	New Zealand	Au Pair	\$695 – 1,295 (depending on duration) + flights	\$200-260 NZD per week + \$1020NZD Bonus for completing 12 months	3-12 months	Application and acceptance fees. Childcare experience required
AIFS	USA	Camp America Counsellor	\$699 (before 30 Sep 2022) + flights	Pocket money, meals	9-12 weeks	Visa, police check
WWOOF	Australia	Farm work (all kinds)	\$70 2-year membership	Meals & accommodation	Any	Travel, Insurance
ADF	Gap Year Program	Various	None	From \$50,272	12 months	Costs towards living expenses deducted from your salary

You can honestly spend as much as you can imagine on a Gap Year, but if you're strapped for cash then as you can see, there are affordable options out there.

Think outside the box

Apply for money towards your time out.

There are scholarships and grants that you could apply for through some providers or external organisations. If your application is successful you could get money put towards your Gap Year program, or receive extras to add on.

It's always worth having a chat with [Centrelink](#) too. They won't be dishing out money for nothing, but if you'll be volunteering or earning below a certain threshold, there could be some financial assistance you'll be eligible for.

More information

If you'd like more information about opportunities or how to go about planning your Gap Year, head over to our [page](#) or grab a copy of our [Gap Year Guide](#).

Ultimate Classroom

Ultimate Classroom is an exciting new challenge-based series that takes classroom science, design, and engineering to the next level.

Eighteen of Australia's brightest high-school STEM students will be tested like never before. They'll need to harness their skills in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths to tackle a series of challenges such as flying drones, building bridges, and deciphering codes, to become the 2022 Ultimate Classroom champions.

Guiding them will be maths teacher extraordinaire and WooTube creator Eddie Woo, TV presenter and gaming guru Steph Bendixsen, and some of the very best STEM specialists from the Australian Defence Force.

Watch live 6.30pm Sundays on 10 Shake, or catch up on 10 Play: <https://10play.com.au/ultimate-classroom>

Job Spotlight

[How to become a Disaster Management Officer](#)

Disaster Management Officers are responsible for planning and preparing communities for disasters and emergencies. They generally work with councils and government bodies to develop and implement plans and strategies to deal with natural disasters, such as bushfires, floods, cyclones, or other large-scale emergencies.

If you are passionate about helping your community, want a role that can be varied, and are prepared to face tough situations, this role could be ideal for you.

About you:

- Trustworthy and reliable
- Great communicator
- Fantastic team worker
- Plenty of initiative
- Excellent time management skills
- Calm under pressure
- Motivated and driven
- Kind and empathetic

The job:

- Creating disaster management plans, focusing on both precautions and response to disaster
- Engaging with community to determine their needs
- Overseeing the implementation of plans in a disaster
- Liaising with government bodies and stakeholders
- Advising on policy decisions and matters
- Arranging public awareness activities
- Creating educational activities for schools
- Managing budgets and applying for funding

Lifestyle Impact: Low

- Part Time opportunities: Low – around 14% of Disaster Management Officers work part-time (source: gov.au).
- Average hours for full-time workers: 44 hours a week, which is average (source: labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- Disaster Management Officers' salary (median) \$113,000* per year (source: ato.gov.au).
*Salaries vary depending on your skills and experience.
- Future career growth: Moderate (source: labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- Depending on where you work, there will be times of the year that are busier than others (during bushfire or cyclone season, for example).
- You might need to deal with people in (or who have been in) stressful situations, so being calm and empathetic is a must.

Disaster Management Officers are most in demand in these locations:

Disaster Management Officers are generally employed by local councils, meaning they are needed all across the country. Disaster Management Officers typically work in the Public Administration and Safety industry.

How to become a Disaster Management Officer

You will usually need a minimum Diploma-level qualification to work as a Disaster Management Officer.

Step 1 – Complete Year 12 with a focus on English and Maths.

Step 2 – Get work experience or volunteer with your local council – this can be a great way to start opening doors to a future job.

Step 3 – Obtain a [relevant qualification](#) in disaster or emergency management, project management, or even business administration.

Step 4 – Start in support and administrative roles within disaster management.

Step 5 – With lots of experience, work your way up into leadership and management roles.

Find out more here –

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/resilience-nsw>

<https://www.emv.vic.gov.au/>

<https://www.disaster.qld.gov.au/dmg/rr/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://esa.act.gov.au/>

<https://www.safecom.sa.gov.au/emergency-management/>

<https://semc.wa.gov.au/>

<https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/emergency-management>

<https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/lgat-advocacy/emergency-management>

Similar Careers to Disaster Management Officer

Project Manager

Admin Officer

Environmental Officer

Legislator

Politician

Community Worker

Find out more about alternative [careers](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What do Disaster Management Officers do?

Disaster Management Officers create action plans to deal with disasters and emergencies within a community. They also help with the response to disasters, and develop plans to try to prevent large scale damage and loss in the future.

Which industries employ Disaster Management Officers?

Disaster Management Officers are mostly employed in the Public Administration and Safety industry.

What options are there for career progression?

You will usually start out working as part of a team in an administrative capacity, before moving up to lead and manage teams of people (or even whole council departments). You might even like to move up into higher levels of government.

Do I need to go to university to become a Disaster Management Officer?

Yes, you will usually need a formal qualification in order to apply for most roles. This can range from Diploma to postgraduate level, depending on the complexity of the role and your previous work experience.

Where do Disaster Management Officers work?

Disaster Management Officers generally work within local councils, or sometimes other government agencies. Some private companies may also employ Disaster Management Officers, though this usually in an advisory or educational capacity.

What are 3 things I can do right now to help me become a Disaster Management Officer?

If you're in high school and you'd like to find out if a career as a Disaster Management Officer is right for you, here's a few things you could do right now:

1. Contact your local council and try and organise a work experience or volunteering placement. Get to know how your local council works and the kinds of jobs and career pathways available to you.
2. Start getting to know your community and the area you live in. Engage with community members and start building on your public speaking skills and confidence.
3. Talk to a Disaster Management Officer to see what a day in their life is like. If you don't know anyone, see if you can watch videos or documentaries about the role.

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